



INDIANA COMMISSION  
HIGHER *for* EDUCATION

## COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION May 17, 2004

Contact: Stan Jones, (317) 464-4400  
Karen Rasmussen (317) 464-4400 x 22

### **Indiana/Ohio Reciprocity Agreement Approved, Enhancing Access to Higher Education for Residents of Both States**

Indiana has endorsed a reciprocity agreement for county residents and campuses on both sides of the Indiana/Ohio border. On Friday, the Commission for Higher Education approved the proposed agreement as part of the agenda for its May meeting. Approval by the Ohio Board of Regents is pending; the Board is expected to act in June.

College and university campuses from both states worked out the terms of this agreement, which will run for one year, from July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005. Participating Indiana institutions include Ball State University, IU East, Ivy Tech State College in Muncie and Richmond, Purdue Statewide Technology in Muncie and Richmond, and Vincennes University as a Community College of Indiana partner with Ivy Tech in Muncie.

From July 1, these campuses will be able to offer Indiana in-state tuition rates to residents of six Ohio counties – Butler, Darke, Mercer, Preble, Shelby, and Van Wert counties. At the same time, eight Ohio institutions will be able to offer their in-state rates of tuition to residents of 12 Indiana counties – Adams, Blackford, Delaware, Fayette, Franklin, Henry, Jay, Randolph, Rush, Union, Wayne, and Wells. The difference in number of eligible counties stems from a decision to offer eligibility to roughly equal populations on both sides of the border.

The participating Ohio institutions include Clark State Community College, Edison Community College, the Hamilton and Middletown campuses of Miami University, Rhodes State College, Sinclair Community College, and both the Main Campus and the Lake Campus of Wright State University.

Conversations about establishing a reciprocity agreement began in 2001-02. Institutions along the entire border were invited to participate, although it was recognized that some regions might reach agreement more quickly than others. Over time, Ohio institutions in the Cincinnati area and then the Toledo area decided not to participate. As a result, the agreement approved on Friday focuses on the central border region.

Two campuses that had been invited to discuss a possible agreement along the northern border, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne and Ivy Tech-Fort Wayne, now want to be included in the reciprocity agreement for the central border region. Commission staff will work to accomplish this during 2004-05.

Indiana's experience with reciprocity agreements – all connected with Kentucky and the Ohio River border – has been positive. Enrollments have grown. Moreover, reciprocity students are counted as resident students for purposes of state funding. As Commission member Robert Bowen noted at Friday's meeting, this type of agreement provides "a win/win situation."

The one-year agreement may be renewed prior to June 30, 2005, by mutual consent of all parties. The renewed agreement would be for two years, 2005-07, and would coincide with the biennial budget cycle of both Indiana and Ohio. The agreement also includes an amendment procedure. Participating institutions will provide annual reports on the enrollment and fiscal implications of the agreement to the other institutions, the Commission, and the Board of Regents.